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resulted in increases in firearms class attendance, range use, and handgun sales. The spokesperson for "Firearms Business" estimated that 50 percent of the companies firearms sales were related to Florida's "shall issue" law. Texas's new "shall issue" laws prompted the strongest response for gun sales that an owner of a chain of outdoor stores in Houston, Texas had ever seen. And an estimate was done that predicted that 150,000 applications for concealed carry licenses would be done in the Houston area alone. In effect, we're talking about increasing, not only money spent on gun sales, but all of the attendant requirements for using a gun. I'm going to close by talking a little bit about the fact that again we need to be reminded that this kind of law does not decrease crime rates, because we know that crime rates go down much faster and much more significantly in states that have strict gun control laws. I will remind you also, especially those of you who have talked about law and order and being tough on crime, that law enforcement has solidly opposed this particular bill, that means the Sheriffs Association, the Police Officers Association, Police Chiefs Association, and Law Enforcement Officers Association. The message to young people is that a gun will solve your problems, therefore you ought to use a gun to solve your problems. Also, remember that states that have liberal gun laws have significant numbers of people with permits who are committing violent crimes. And again, this is about increased gun sales. They continually tout that liberal gun laws are a way of augmenting the sales of handguns.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR KIEL: And finally, please remember that the vast majority of Nebraskans oppose this particular bill. Seventy-nine percent disagree that people should legally be able to carry concealed weapons, 84 disagree that society in general will be safer if people were allowed to carry concealed weapons, and 79 percent agree that concealed weapons will cause more gun violence. That's a statewide survey, it's not a particular area in Nebraska that believes this, but the entire state of Nebraska believes that we ought not to pass this kind of liberal, lax concealed weapons bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Items for the record.